



# News Release

---

263-10  
September 1, 2010

CONTACT:  
David Blanchette  
(217) 558-8970

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **The ultimate school field trip**

### ***Classroom Connections Program provides hands-on history lessons along with Lincoln Presidential Museum tour***

*SPRINGFIELD* – The best way for students to learn history is to experience it. And the best way to experience history is through the Classroom Connections Program at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, a hands-on learning program that turns a regular school field trip into an enhanced educational experience.

The Classroom Connections Program features specific sessions for students in grades 4 through 12 in addition to a tour of the world's most popular Presidential Museum. The one-hour learning sessions are held in the Presidential Library classroom, and include:

- 19<sup>th</sup> Century Kids: What was it like to grow up in the 19<sup>th</sup> century? Find out in this exploration of work, school and play. Grade level 4 – 6.
- Exploring History through Newspapers on Microfilm: Students research events that shaped Illinois history, or select an event or person and compare Illinois newspaper coverage in various cities. Grade level 5 – 12.
- Tracking the Underground Railroad: Neither underground nor a railroad, the Underground Railroad was a network to freedom for slaves. Students are introduced to the Railroad, its routes, and stories of some who were passengers, conductors, or station masters on this freedom train. Grade level 4 – 12.
- Life of a Soldier: Learn about the life of a Civil War soldier while getting up close and personal with reproduction artifacts. Grade level 4 – 6.
- Women of the Civil War: Learn how the women of the Civil War served as nurses, spies, and those who kept the home fires burning for both the Union and the Confederacy. Grade level 4 – 12.

- Perspectives of the Civil War: By examining and evaluating photographs, letters, maps, poems, sheet music, and artifact replicas, students explore five themes of the Civil War. Grade level 7 – 12.
- Growing Lincoln's Garden: Students explore gardening practices through the use of horticulture catalogs and publications. Students visiting during April – October participate in a visit to the Heritage Garden at the Harriet Dean House in the Lincoln Home neighborhood. This session lasts one and a half hours. Grade level 9 – 12.
- CSI – Civil War Soldier Investigation: Students participate in on-line investigations for personal and military history of Illinois Civil War soldiers. Grade level 7 – 12.

The Classroom Connection Program is offered on September 29, October 13 and 27, and November 10, 2010; and January 12 and 26, February 9 and 23, March 9 and 23, April 13 and 27, and May 11 and 25, 2011. Advance registration with a \$50 refundable deposit is required. Space is limited to 35 students per day on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no charge for the Classroom Connection Program or the Presidential Museum tour for school groups with advance reservations. To register, call (217) 558-9016 or email [randy.wiseman@illinois.gov](mailto:randy.wiseman@illinois.gov). Box lunches may be purchased from the Museum's SUBWAY Café by calling (217) 523-2247 in advance.

The Classroom Connection Program is coordinated by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum's Education Division. For more information, visit [www.presidentlincoln.org/education](http://www.presidentlincoln.org/education).

**# # #**